

C1 1. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus engageable with a hand brake assembly for automatically applying at least one brake means secured to a railway vehicle with said hand brake assembly, said apparatus comprising:

(a) an operating means having at least one gear, said at least one gear being engageable with at least one gear of a gear assembly disposed in a housing member of said hand brake assembly for operating said gear assembly in a direction which will cause an application of said at least one brake means;

(b) a source of fluid pressure connected to said operating means for periodically supplying a predetermined pressure to said operating means at least sufficient to cause such application of said at least one brake means;

(c) a means connected to said source of fluid pressure for initiating a supply of said predetermined pressure to said operating means thereby causing an automatic application of said at least one brake means by said hand brake assembly; and

(d) a timing means connected intermediate said operating means and said source of fluid pressure for controlling said predetermined pressure being periodically supplied to said operating means.

C2 10. (Amended) An apparatus for automatically applying at least one brake means secured to a railway vehicle with a hand brake assembly, according to claim 1, wherein said source of fluid pressure is pneumatic.

C3 30. (Twice Amended) An electrically operated apparatus engageable with a hand brake assembly for automatically electrically applying at least one brake means secured to a railway vehicle with said hand brake assembly, said electrically operated apparatus comprising:

(a) a motor means having a rotatable shaft carrying a gear member thereon, said gear member engageable with at least one gear of a gear assembly disposed in a housing member of said hand brake assembly for operating said gear assembly in a direction which will cause an application of said at least one brake means; and

(b) a means connected to said motor for starting said motor and thereby initiating an automatic electrical application of said at least one brake means by said hand brake assembly.